Academic year, 1926–27.

President.

1. The hon. Sir V. M. Coutts-Trotter, *Kt*.

Members.

2. The hon. Mr. Justice C. E. Odgers.
3. The hon. Mr. Justice M. Venkatasubba Rao.
4. The hon. Mr. Justice C. Madhavan Nayar.
5. M.R.Ry. C. V. Anantakrishna Ayyar Avargal, Government Pleader.
6. " Rai Bahadur Sir K. Venkatreddi Nayudu Garu, *Kt*., M.L.C.
7. Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.
8. The Advocate-General (ex officio).

Secretary.

9. The Principal, Law College (ex officio).

Appendix IX.

[Vide answer to question No. 1434 asked by Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th January 1928, page 253 supra.]

Report of the Director of Industries No. 493–*D*/27, *dated* 10*th December* 1927.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the coir retting experiments conducted at Ambajipet.

2. As Government are aware, the object of the experiments was to demonstrate that provided West Coast methods of retting are adopted, coir fibre and yarn can be produced on the East Coast, approximately equal in quality to those produced on the West Coast. Ambajipet, which is a large coconut growing centre, was chosen for the initiation of the experiments. There was some delay in securing a suitable site in the place, as some private parties who had originally offered to provide sites free of rent, did not do so. Latterly, the Public Works Department had to be addressed in the matter, and it was only in December 1926 that a site was secured on the bank of the Kausika Drain.

3. Pits of the required dimensions for retting the husks were sunk in January 1927. For soaking purposes, pits are best situated on the borders of backwaters, creeks or mouths of rivers, adjoining the sea, so as to secure a daily tidal flow of water to carry off the waste products and the site selected was very close to the banks of the Kausika Drain.